Venn Diagram

For Grades 9-12

Objective

Students can manage their online identity or "brand" by monitoring what information, pictures, and other content they post online. What is posted online is public (anyone can view it), so online information can affect a student's offline reputation.

Required Materials

- A sheet of paper or Venn diagram handout
- Pencil

Instructions

Students should draw three intersecting circles to create a Venn diagram (or use the attached Venn diagram handout). Each circle should intersect one other circle and all three circles should intersect at one point.

Each circle represents one area of life – either a group they are a member of or a place they frequent – e.g., school, family, friends, soccer field, work, etc.

In each circle, students should list characteristics that describe them in that setting, including their image and persona. For example: On the soccer field – competitive, fast, wears a uniform, member of a team.

Some characteristics from each area of their life will overlap while others will not. Each characteristic should be placed in the appropriate parts of the circles.

Once the students have completed their Venn diagrams, facilitate a discussion with the students regarding their online identities and personas.

Discussion

What characteristics exist in multiple settings for you?

Are any of the characteristics you listed unique to one setting?

What characteristics would you not want in another setting?

Is what you wear in one setting appropriate in another?

Does how you talk differ from one setting to another?

Your online profile is available to everyone (friends, family, employers, teachers). What you post online is public and can be permanently available online through archiving. Many different people from different settings can see the content of what you post online – on a message board, in a chat room, in your social networking profiles.

If someone from a different setting, for instance your school, saw your profile, how would this make you feel? Would you be comfortable with this?

Would you make any changes to your public profile? Would you describe yourself differently?

Venn Diagram

For Grades 9-12